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WILL INTRODUCE SOVIET COAL-MINING METHODS

During recent years Bulgarian coal production has increased constantly. The 1949 plan was fulfilled 100 percent; the 1950 plan, 111.2 percent; and the plan for the first 5 months of 1951, 134 percent.

As Soviet mining methods are not being applied everywhere, a nationwide conference for the introduction of progressive Soviet work methods in all Bulgarian coal mines took place in Dimitrovgrad on 13 June 1951. The following were present at the conference: Engineer S. Karadzhov, Deputy Minister of Industry; Matev, Director-General of the "Vuglishta" (Coal) Combine; and representative of the Dimitrovo mines and the "Marba", "Pirin," Bobov Dol," "Chukurovo," "Beli Bryag," and "Nikolaevo" mines.

The purpose of the conference was to point out all the advantages of the progressive work methods that have been introduced in the coal industry and to persuade miners, engineers, and technical personnel that the cycle method, the extended face system, the two-shift system, organization by brigades, the multidrilling system, and the speed method are of the utmost importance in increasing labor productivity in the coal industry.

The Dimitrovo mines, especially the "Vulkan" shaft, introduced the threeshift work system (two production shifts and one for preparation and repairs) on 8 January 1951. Their example was followed by the "Nadezhda" shaft on 1 February 1951 and by the "Maritsa" and "Merichleri" shafts on 15 May 1951. At present, the whole "Marbas" mine has already introduced this work system in its shafts and the results have been quite encouraging. Up to now, cyclic work has been carried on in Bulgarian mines by using six or seven shifts. This has required detailed accounting and has caused delays in the shifts and in production. The present goal is to have a 24-hour cycle served by three shifts.

In the short reports made by the technical director of the "Vuglishta" Combine, Engineer Popyordanov, by the director of the "Marbas" mine Engineer At. Naydenov, and by the inspector at the central office of the Dimitrovo

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mines, Engineer Popivanov, it was pointed out that progressive Soviet work methods should be adopted by all managers, party and labor union officials, shock workers and innovators, workers, and miners.

The conference unanimously accepted the proposal made by the "Vuglishta" Combine to start not later than 25 June 1951 to employ the extended face system and make use of three shifts. This system will eventually be extended to all mines in the country.

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